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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Hideaki NISHI et al.

Serial No.: 10/030,434

Group Art Unit: 1731

Filed: April 23, 2002

Examiner: Chris Fiorilla

For: METHOD OF PRODUCING CERAMIC BODY

CONFIRMATION OF TELEPHONE ELECTION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The Examiner in charge of the above-identified application telephoned applicants' representatives on December 6, 2002, to communicate an Election of Species among Species 1, claim 2; Species 2, claim 5; and Species 3, claim 7.

Applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, species 1 for initial examination in this application. Claims 2-4 read on the elected species and claim 1 is generic to all species.

Applicants traverse the election requirement since all of species 1, 2 and 3 are sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for species 1 should necessarily encompass a thorough and complete search for species 2 and 3.

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Search and examination of the entire application can be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 which states that "[i]f the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits." This policy should apply in the present application to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to applicant and unnecessary duplicative examination by the USPTO.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the election requirement and examination of all species herein are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PARKHURST & WENDEL, L.L.P.



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December 12, 2002
Date

RWP:RNW/mhs

Attorney Docket No.: NSUG:849

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